AMENDED CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A catalyst composition for the hydroprocessing of hydrocarbon feedstocks comprising at least one non-noble Group VIII metal component, at least two Group VIB metal components, and at least about 1 wt.% of a combustible binder material selected from the group consisting of combustible binders and precursors thereof, the Group VIII and Group VIB metal components making up at least about ~~50~~70 wt.% of the catalyst composition, calculated as oxides, wherein at least part of the metal components of the catalyst composition is in the sulfided form.

2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended) The catalyst composition of claim ~~2~~1 wherein the Group VIII and Group VIB metal components make up at least about 90 wt.% of the catalyst composition, calculated as oxides.

4. (original) The catalyst composition of claim 1 which consists essentially of at least one non-noble Group VIII metal component, at least two Group VIB metal components, and at least about 1 wt.% of a combustible binder material.

5. (original) The catalyst composition of claim 1 wherein the Group VIII non-noble metal component comprises cobalt, nickel, iron, or mixtures thereof.

6. (original) The catalyst composition of claim 1 wherein nickel and cobalt make up at least about 50 wt.% of the total of Group VIII non-noble metal components calculated as oxides.

7. (original) The catalyst composition of claim 6 wherein nickel and cobalt make up at least about 70 wt.% of the total of Group VIII non-noble metal components calculated as oxides.

8. (currently amended) The catalyst composition of claim ~~6~~7 wherein nickel and cobalt make up at least about 90 wt.% of the total of Group VIII non-noble metal components calculated as oxides.

9. (original) The catalyst composition of claim 1 wherein the Group VIB metal component comprises at least two of molybdenum, tungsten, and chromium.

10. (original) The catalyst composition of claim 9 wherein molybdenum and tungsten make up at least about 50 wt.% of the total of Group VIB metal components, calculated as oxides.

11. (original) The catalyst composition of claim 10 wherein molybdenum and tungsten make up at least about 70 wt.% of the total of Group VIB metal components, calculated as oxides.

12. (currently amended) The catalyst composition of claim ~~10~~11 wherein molybdenum and tungsten make up at least 90 wt.% of the total of Group VIB metal components, calculated as oxides.

13. (currently amended) The catalyst composition of claim 1 wherein the combustible binder material is a combustible binder or a combustible binder precursor which, ~~for the combustible binder precursor optionally after~~upon pyrolysis, comprises carbon as its major component.

14. (currently amended) The catalyst composition of claim 13 wherein the combustible binder material is or is derived from a combustible binder

precursor which comprises an organic polymer selected from the group consisting of polyacrylonitriles, bakelite, polyamides, polyurethanes, cellulose and derivatives thereof, hemicellulosic materials, polyfurfuryl alcohol, styrene-divinylbenzene copolymers, phenol resins, furan resins, polyimide resins, polyphenylene resins, phenolic foams, and polyurethane foams.

15. (cancelled)

16-21 (withdrawn)

22-24 (withdrawn)

25. (new) A catalyst composition for the hydroprocessing of hydrocarbon feedstocks comprising at least one non-noble Group VIII metal component, at least two Group VIB metal components, and at least about 1 wt.% of a combustible binder material selected from combustible binders and precursors thereof, the Group VIII and Group VIB metal components making up at least about 70 wt.% of the catalyst composition, calculated as oxides, wherein the Group VIB metal component comprises molybdenum and tungsten.